

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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A POET AND HIS 60,000 PIECES OF GOLD

Romantic Story Recalled by a New Discovery in Afghanistan

THE recent discovery of a ruined Moslem palace near Kala Bist in south-west Afghanistan recalls the strange and romantic story of Persia's famous poet Firdausi, who lived from about A.D. 941 to 1020.

This richly-decorated palace, now being excavated by French archaeologists, is almost certainly one of those occupied by the powerful conqueror, Mahmud of Ghazni, who invaded India in the early part of the eleventh century.

HAPPY LANDING

A CROWD watched a flight of swans make a happy landing on an Edinburgh loch under difficult conditions the other day. The loch was ice-bound round the edges, and the water in the middle was packed with birds.

When the swans arrived they circled regally round the loch in line, dropping lower with every circuit. Then, as if by common consent, the whole flight dipped towards the ice with wings curved to act as brakes, and webbed feet outstretched.

Each of the birds landed successfully on the ice, was carried across the slippery surface by its momentum, and slipped quietly into the water beside the protesting "residents."

He Just Dropped in to Tea

Some guests at a hotel in the mountains above Wellington, in Cape Province, were having tea on the lawns, under the trees; it was a pleasant, peaceful scene. Suddenly, however, a huge baboon dropped out of the branches, and the people scattered in all directions.

Mr Baboon alone seemed unperturbed. He proceeded to sample the cakes and sandwiches, sat down on a deckchair, which collapsed under his weight, and upset the urn of tea.

Then, munching contentedly, his giant paws stuffed full of chocolate meringues, Mr Baboon sauntered off. All was peaceful once more!

Where Scouting Began

THE Poole Local Scouting Association propose building a District Headquarters where Scouts from any part of the world can stay when visiting the islet where Scouting began. This "hostel for world Scouts" would be built on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour where, in 1907, Robert Baden-Powell held an experimental camp which led to the formation of the Scout Movement a year later.

The Sultan Mahmud was not only a great soldier but a lover of art and literature, and he invited the poet Firdausi to live at his court. There Firdausi set to work to write a complete history of Persia in nearly 60,000 verses, and the Sultan said he would pay him a thousand gold pieces for every thousand verses.

Firdausi the Good

Firdausi was a good man as well as a great poet, and he said he would not take his reward until he had finished the poem because he did not want it for himself but intended to use it to improve irrigation at his home town of Tus, in Khorasan—a scheme he had dreamed of since his boyhood.

So the Sultan directed that meanwhile the poet should be paid enough for him to live on while he carried out his immense work, but the Court Treasurer, who was jealous of Firdausi, contrived to cheat him so that he was often in dire poverty.

At last, after 35 years, the long, beautiful, and scholarly poem was finished, but the treasurer persuaded his master to send silver instead of gold.

The poet was in his bath when the elephant arrived outside carrying the sacks of silver. He rejoiced, thinking they contained the promised gold, and when he found they held only silver he was overcome with indignation and disappointment at Mahmud's meanness.

Mahmud the Mean

He refused to accept the silver as payment. He gave 20,000 pieces to a friend, 20,000 to the man who looked after the baths, and 20,000 to a beer-seller for a glass of beer—surely the dearest glass of beer in history!

After that he strode off to the mosque and scribbled sarcastic words about Mahmud on the wall near the place when the Sultan went to pray. Next he wrote a bitter satire on the Sultan and gave it to his friend, instructing him not to hand it to Mahmud until 20 days had elapsed. Then the old poet, wearing a ragged cloak and carrying a staff, shook the dust of the city from his feet.

Mahmud, when he had the satire read to him, got into a furious rage and offered a big

Continued on page 2



Ski High

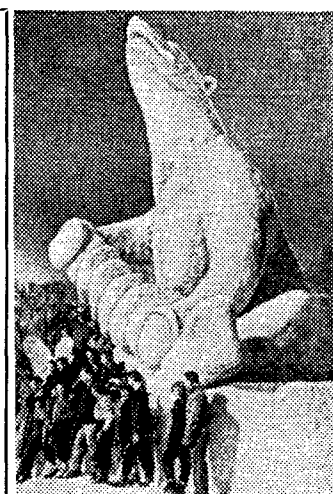
A fine action picture of Simon Slattvik, the Norwegian who outjumped all the other competitors in the ski-ing championships held at a winter resort in the State of New York.

Rescued From an Avalanche

MOST people in this country are never likely to have the misfortune of being buried under an avalanche; but it is comforting to know that should it happen you can get out alive even if you are below twelve feet of snow. The technique has been explained by Wilfred Davis, of Denver, Colorado, who is winter sports administrator for the Rocky Mountain Region, who has himself been buried and has also rescued many others.

Mr Davis has led many

American Forest Service parties that have rescued men entombed in the snow. The units move across the width of the avalanche in two solid lines probing the snow with hollow metal tubes 14 feet long, and when they locate the buried person the snow around is honeycombed with the tubes to provide air channels. Then the unit starts to dig out the entrapped person. In nearly all cases where persons have been dug out of less than 12 feet of snow they have lived.



ALPHEUS NDLOVU MAKES GOOD

THERE was a tense moment at the graduation ceremony in the University of Cape Town the other day when Alpheus Ndlovu stepped forward to receive his LL.B degree from the hands of the Chancellor; for 31-year-old Mr Ndlovu is the first African to take his degree in law at any South African University.

He is the son of a Zulu labourer, and before he was 12 he worked

as houseboy, farm labourer, and delivery lad, often for as little as 5s a month.

Out of his meagre wages Alpheus Ndlovu saved enough to persuade his father to send him to school. He matriculated at the Marianhill Monastery near Durban in 1940, and then got a grant from the joint Council of Europeans and Africans that paid his fees as a law student.

Ice Serenade

Wunderbar, a 28-foot polar bear sculptured in ice, accompanies the merry-makers on his concertina. He was the centrepiece of the 40th annual Dartmouth Winter Carnival at Hanover, New Hampshire, U.S.A.

What is Happening in Germany?

ACTIONS of the Federal Government of Western Germany both in strictly domestic affairs and in foreign affairs are a matter of considerable concern to the Allies. In fact, in recent weeks its conduct has been strongly criticised, especially by Americans.

The interest of her neighbours in German affairs results, of course, from the fact that it is not possible for them to ignore happenings in a nation of 67 millions sitting, as it were, in the middle of the European Continent. But to understand these happenings we must have a clear idea about several basic facts.

The Two Germanys

One of the most important of them is Germany's division into two parts—Eastern and Western—the Eastern under the strictest Russian control, the Western under the military occupation of the Western Allies, but otherwise free to plan its own future provided it be peaceful.

The larger of the two is Western Germany, with 45 million people; but a great number of these are refugees from the East who had to leave the country of their origin after the war. From this immigration have sprung a number of the country's difficulties, much of its unemployment, housing shortage, and other social problems.

It is also important to realise that the refugee population is still being increased each month by thousands who leave their homes in the Soviet-ruled East to seek freedom in the West.

The freedom given by the Allies to Western Germany was responsible, at first, for a remarkable economic recovery, but also for many serious mistakes. For instance, the Germans abolished food rationing, but they failed to

keep down the prices of food and so lower-paid workers suffered. Worse still, they have not succeeded in keeping all their people employed. Today there are nearly two million persons out of work. Little, too, is being done to build up foreign trade.

These shortcomings were strongly criticised by the US Economic Co-operation Administration a short while ago. The ECA Report pointed out that the Germans are doing little to cut down their dollar spending and still less to increase the production of food, so that much has to be bought for dollars. More serious still, some responsible German politicians have lately been trying to blame the Allies for all their troubles.

New Spirit Wanted

These tendencies were condemned recently by Mr McCloy, the American High Commissioner, who had been conferring with President Truman and other members of the US Government on his country's policy towards Germany. Mr McCloy called upon the Germans to overcome their present difficulties by a "regenerated spirit" of democracy. He told them that they must seek their rightful place in the European community by hard work and not by political manoeuvring.

There is no doubt that this plain speaking was welcomed by the Allied nations and also by those Germans who wish to help in building the new Europe.

A POET'S GOLD

Continued from page 1

reward for the capture of the poet.

Poor hunted Firdausi travelled to distant Baghdad and there wrote a poem in honour of the Caliph, which so pleased him that he invited the poet to live at his court. But Mahmud heard of this and sent a threatening letter to the Caliph insisting that the poet should be handed over to him.

Not wishing to start a war, Firdausi wearily left Baghdad and visited the Governor of Kohistan, a great friend of his. This Governor was also a personal friend of Mahmud's, and he wrote to the Sultan reproaching him for the shabby way he had treated Firdausi. Other friends of the poet also urged Mahmud to forgive him, until at last the fiery conqueror repented his broken promise and had the jealous Treasurer executed.

By this time the poet, now an aged and decrepit man, had returned to his native Tus, where he died.

The old story adds that as his funeral procession left the town by one gate, Mahmud's camels bearing 60,000 pieces of gold entered by another, and that Firdausi's old sister, remembering his wishes, used the treasure to build an embankment for the river of Tus.

Have You Ordered Your C N?

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

STICKY BUSINESS

When a pony named Sally was sinking in mud on Canvey Island, Essex, two fire brigades hurried to her rescue. The Canvey Island brigade got there first and pulled her out. Then it was found that the pumps of the other brigade, from Hadleigh, were stuck in the mud, too, and an hour was spent in pulling them out.

A Letter of Commendation for Gallantry has been awarded to Scout Neil Cross, 14, of the 5th Tiverton (Salvation Army) Group. While camping at Lynton, Devon, he saved a comrade from a serious accident when a rock rolled down a hillside. As a result the little finger of his right hand had to be amputated.

London Airport's new radar system can detect four-engined aircraft flying at 20,000 feet about 130 miles away. The new equipment, which is American, cost £100,000 to instal.



Pearl fishing in the River Doon, Ayrshire, is a popular pastime among visitors. The pearls are extracted from mussels found in the river bed. This tiny necklace, being arranged on a model by Willa Allan, a jeweller's daughter, is worth £22 10s.

Fire recently damaged one of the oldest parts of Jesus College, Cambridge, founded in 1496. An undergraduate discovered the fire because he had set his alarm clock at 5.15 a.m. To give the fire alarm he jumped 20 feet from his room to a roof below and from there to the ground.

Scholarships for British students are being offered by fourteen foreign countries and universities for the academic year 1950-51. Applications must be made to the British Council by March 10.

Popular

The 2s postal order was the one most in demand during the past year, 51,279,000 having been sold. Altogether 425,000,000 postal orders were issued.

Dr Raymond Archer has been elected the first Methodist Bishop of South-East Asia.

Group Scoutmaster Edwin White and Patrol Leader Ray Huckle, 15, of the 4th Harlow (Little Hollingbury) Group, Essex, have both been awarded the Gilt Cross for saving a boy from drowning at Overstrand, Norfolk.

An attempt is being made to raise what is believed to be an ancient Roman merchant ship lying about a mile off Albenga, on the Gulf of Genoa. If it is raised it will be the only specimen of such a vessel in existence.

IN TOWN TONIGHT

Drought in New South Wales is driving thousands of rabbits into the towns in search of water.

A recommendation has been made that the footbridge over the River Stour at Flatford, painted in many of Constable's landscapes, should be reconstructed to an almost identical design to carry vehicles up to eight tons.

Last year 1546 British dogs were bought by animal-lovers overseas.

Last year Britain exported more motor-cars and commercial vehicles than any other country. Of the industry's total output of 630,665 vehicles—100,000 more than in 1948—351,000 were exported. Total value of all the overseas sales was £173,000,000.

The Canadian pilot who has been flying the British scientists off Stonington Island in the Antarctic has also had two Emperor penguins as passengers.

Time-Savers

The new Argonaut airliners for the BOAC London-to-Buenos Aires route will cut flying time by 18 hours.

The Boys' Brigade Diploma for Gallant Conduct has been awarded to Private Robert Leslie Kennedy, 16, of the 30th Belfast Company, for saving his four-year-old brother from drowning in Donaghadee Harbour.

Britain is importing £749,200 worth of fruit cake from Australia.

Last year 919,704 babies were born in Italy and the country's population rose by 440,175.

DANCING FOR DOLLARS

The Sadler's Wells Ballet, which made over £26,000 during its nine-week tour of the US and Canada last year, is to make a 16-week tour this autumn.

Except for a few old single-deck buses, all of London Transport's 7000 vehicles are now powered by Diesel-oil engines. On a gallon of fuel, Diesel-engined buses run twice as far as those using petrol, and Diesel oil is slightly cheaper than petrol.

The Government of Pakistan is to spend £16,000,000 on a three-year scheme for developing the port of Chittagong.

The RAF station at Oakington, Cambridgeshire, won the Transport Command's trophy for lowest accident rate in 1949.

A football team of boys from the British Zone of Germany is to visit Britain from March 14 to April 2. They will play matches in London, Wolverhampton, Nottingham, and Newcastle.

In the Chalk

The badge of the Wiltshire Regiment is to be carved in the Wiltshire Downs by members of the Fovant Home Guard Old Comrades' Association.



John has now left school and entered the Army.

Nineteen-year-old John Hyde was chosen while still a pupil at Wellingborough Grammar School (Northants) to play in England's Rugby XV against France in Paris this week. He is the first schoolboy chosen to play for England since 1934.

ARCTIC WEATHER NEWS

CANADA and USA will establish the most northerly weather station in the world this summer when a weather-reporting outpost called Alert is opened on the tip of Ellesmere Island, only 400 miles from the North Pole.

Alert will be the latest of five stations recently placed on Arctic islands to help meteorologists to forecast weather accurately for every inhabited part of North America.

Until three years ago the weathermen knew only that many weather trends began in and around the North Pole. They did not know what the weather was like.

Now four stations send reports every six hours to a main weather bureau at Edmonton, Alberta. The information is then rapidly relayed around the continent.

The present stations are Eureka, also on Ellesmere Island, 200 miles south of Alert; on Ellef Ringes Island to the south-west; on Prince Patrick Island; and Resolute, on Cornwallis Island. Canadians and Americans jointly staff these outposts and each is an official Canadian post office.

Spring-Cleaning a Liner

THE Queen Elizabeth has been having her annual overhaul in dry-dock at Southampton.

Spring-cleaning this 83,000-ton liner is no small task. Two thousand gallons of paint were used, and 200,000 towels, 12,000 carpets, 15,000 linen articles, and 30,000 sheets had to be cleaned or renewed.

Meanwhile, a small army of electricians was engaged in examining 4000 miles of wiring and 30,000 bulbs, besides checking over the liner's two power stations. The engineers were just as busy inspecting the four giant turbines and the four 32-ton propellers.

For Future Wage-Earners

ANOTHER of the Choice of Careers booklets designed to help boys and girls about to leave school has just been published for the Ministry of Labour and National Service. It is called The Dress Designer (Stationery Office, 3d), and is for girls.

Booklets already published deal with: the Civil Service, Building, Boot and Shoe Manufacture, Librarianship, Bespoke Tailoring, Floor and Wall Tiler, and Stonemasonry. Many others are being prepared, including nine on the chief Building Trades. All are obtainable, or will be shortly, from the Stationery Office at prices ranging from 4d to 10d.

SCATTERED DIOCESE

ONE of the most scattered dioceses in the world, the Church of England diocese of Melanesia, has just marked the centenary of its founding.

The diocese includes groups of islands scattered across 2000 miles of the south Pacific Ocean, and includes the Solomon Islands and the New Hebrides. Seventy-nine Melanesians are ordained priests, and there are 700 native teachers in the Mission.



Heroism in a Sunken Submarine

It must be a terrifying experience to be trapped in a sunken submarine, and the nation pays homage to the memory of Lieutenant Frederick Joseph Hinde, R.N., and Chief Engineer Room Artificer Francis Walter Hine, D.S.M., who have been posthumously awarded the Albert Medal for the wonderful example of coolness they gave when the Truculent sank.

Before she sank Lieutenant Hinde divided the crew into two parties, one of which stayed with him in the after end of the submarine, and the other went to the engine-room in charge of Hine. The watertight doors between the compartments were closed, and the two leaders helped the others to reach the surface by the escape hatches. Both heroes got out themselves but were not picked up.

A Guide to the Rescue

A GIRL GUIDE who remembered her training saved a boy's life not long ago at Mill Hill, Middlesex. The Guide was Gillian Short, aged 13, who was with some other children who were playing round a bonfire they had made on waste ground.

Suddenly flames set light to the clothes of a boy of ten. Gillian promptly whipped off her coat, wrapped the boy in it and put out the flames. Well done, Gillian!

Hard-Pressed

THE largest mechanical press ever built has been supplied under the Marshall Plan and shipped from New York to Le Havre. It can apply a pressure of 3500 tons to a sheet of metal measuring 29 feet by 7. The previous highest was 2600 tons.

SPORT SHORTS

BRITAIN retained the World Table Tennis Championship, won last year by Johnny Leach, when Richard Bergmann, naturalised Briton, won the title for the fourth time. Miss Beregi and Miss Elliot of Britain won the women's doubles championship.

THE international women's skating championship at Davos was won by Jeanette Altwegg. British girls also took the next three places, and nine-year-old Ann Robertson of Twickenham was ninth.

ENGLAND is drawn against Italy in the first round of the Davis Cup (European Zone).

AUSTRALIA, with 80 medals, won the Empire Games, New Zealand was second with 52 medals, and England was third with 48 medals.

Rink Hockey

A rival to the popular game of ice-hockey in parts of Kent and Sussex is hockey on roller skates, known as Rink Hockey. This match, between Hastings and Eastbourne, is being played on the terrace of St Leonard's Bathing Pool.

Kindly Northerners

ANIMALS have some trusty friends in the north of England. One is Mrs Wilhelmina Wills, aged 65, who has undertaken to pay for the keep on a nearby farm of a horse that was to be destroyed because it was too old to work any longer in the Sunderland parks. Already she keeps in her backyard a swan she found injured and two ducks—one of which was saved from providing a dinner, and the other bought to keep it company.

Two other north country protectors of animals are Mr and Mrs Alfred Brisco who at Carlisle keep a Home of Rest for aged animals. It is described in The Friend of Animals, the journal of the Humane Education Society. Here are old horses, donkeys, and even goats, a pit pony that lost the sight of one eye while working underground, and a cat with one paw missing which was found by Mr Brisco in a trap. Other animals and birds have found a refuge here.

GOALKEEPER J.P.

RAYMOND MIDDLETON, Chesterfield's goalkeeper, is the only professional footballer in the country today who is also a Justice of the Peace. He was appointed recently to the bench of magistrates in Derbyshire.

A Methodist lay preacher, he is popular with team-mates and opponents alike, but his popularity is highest with members of youth clubs in Chesterfield and district, for Ray Middleton devotes three evenings every week to this fine work.

Middleton was a pit-lad in Durham before he decided to become a professional footballer with Chesterfield about 12 years ago. He has played in over 560 games as guardian of the Chesterfield goal, and as he is now only 29 he may yet set up a record of appearances with one club.

OLDER THAN PYTHAGORAS

DURING excavations in Irak, of the Sumerian town of Shadippur, a number of clay tablets have been found, which bear the solution of a geometrical proposition 17 centuries before it appeared in Euclid.

The problem is that ascribed to Pythagoras of the sixth century B.C., proving that the square on the hypotenuse in a right-angled triangle equals the sum of the squares on the other two sides.

Pioneer in the Shropshire Wilds

Two years ago when Mr Hubert Perry, a coal merchant, went to out-of-the-way Childs Ercall in Shropshire and said he was going to make a farm out of a stretch of 400 acres of heath and woods, people laughed at him. They laughed louder when he said he knew little about farming.

Mr Perry has kept his word and has grown crops of potatoes, oats, and rye on what was the wild heathland.

Heave Ho!



Heaving away on one of the oldest windlasses still in use in Britain, at Chatham Naval Dockyard, is Arthur Deadman, Dockyard Rigger, who has been doing this sort of thing for 35 years at naval bases all over the world.

WINGED VOTES

AFTER the poll a specially-chartered Rapide airliner, carrying ballot boxes, will make a 90-mile flight from an airfield in the Shetlands to Kirkwall, the Orkneys county town, where the count for the two groups of islands will be made. This is believed to be the first time that ballot boxes will have been delivered by air in Britain.

Listening to the "Saucepan Special"

A NEW word has crept into the vocabulary of the native tribes who live in the remote bushveld of Northern Rhodesia. It is "wireless."

It came about with the arrival of the "saucepan special," the mass-produced cheap radio set which the Government of Northern Rhodesia is popularising among the African people. Recently the Director of Information at Lusaka made an eight-day tour into the extreme north-west of the colony to find out for himself how the tribesmen are reacting to the wireless.

Many Europeans in the colony believed that the Rhodesian native would not know how to handle a radio set and would probably wreck it in a short time. But this does not appear to be happening, for even in the remotest kraals where education has not yet penetrated there is a regard for the wireless rarely equalled in white homes.

Wherever a radio set appears crowds of people flock from neighbouring villages in the dense jungle to listen-in. They do so with wide-eyed amazement and many gasps of astonishment. But there is a difficulty—language.

Every tribe in the north-west and beyond practises its own dialect and the natives are often disappointed when they hear a tongue other than their own. But they love the music broadcasts. They do not think much of Handel, but Beethoven is terrific while some kinds of jazz are very popular with the local belles.

When the language difficulty has been overcome it is intended to broadcast simple instructions on how to prevent soil erosion, improve crops, and fight disease. For the children there will be lessons in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and teachers will follow up with organised lessons in jungle classrooms.

FOR PITCAIRN BOYS

A GIFT to the smallest Scout Group in the world—four Wolf Cubs and three Scouts on Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific—is to be delivered by two New Zealand Rover Scouts who are passing the island on their way home from a visit to Britain.

The present, from the Deputy Chief Scout, Sir Percy Everett, consists of a mounted copy of the Scout and Cub Law. It will be a proud possession for these lads in a lonely part of the world.

A School's 100 Years

HELE'S SCHOOL, Exeter, has just celebrated the centenary of its foundation. It was in 1850 that 86 boys gathered for the opening day, and according to the Western Times they were a group of "as fine, healthy, and intelligent-looking lads as could be found in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, indicating by their happy countenances their satisfaction in the advantages they anticipated from their happy position."

The origin of the school was much earlier. Elize Hele, who died in 1636, directed that income from his estates should be devoted by trustees to charitable purposes; but all the trustees died without carrying out his wishes, and it was on the intervention of Queen Victoria herself in 1846 that the disposal of the money began.

STAMP NEWS

THE Iranian Government have announced that the third series of stamps to commemorate the millennium of Ibn-Sina will be placed on sale soon. The designs are based on the buildings and art of the Islamic Period.

ARGENTINA will issue a set of six stamps, and a miniature sheet of the three lowest values, to commemorate a philatelic exhibition being held at Buenos Aires.

MONTVIDEO UNIVERSITY in Uruguay celebrated its hundredth anniversary recently, and the event has been marked by four special stamps.

RECENT issues in France are a set of four symbolising the seasons; and an air-mail stamp with an airview of Paris.

A CANADIAN 50-cent stamp is to be issued on March 1 to celebrate Alberta's booming oil industry and its big contribution to Canada's post-war economy. The stamp is green and shows an Alberta oilfield scene.

HELPING HAND

A RUSSIAN is going up to New College, Oxford, this term, and a Latvian to Oriel next term as the guests of the Oxford Displaced Students' Committee.

The committee is raising about £700 a year by a scheme under which undergraduates who support it contribute three shillings a week each.



Youngest Accordion Band

The Dundee Junior Accordion Band, formed three years ago by music teacher Hilda Taylor, is the youngest band of its kind in Britain. The ages of the 17 players range from nine to fourteen. Here is 11-year-old May Dair conducting at a concert.

ERIC GILLET DISCUSSES TWO AMUSING PICTURES CONCERNING ...

A Talking Mule and a Tame Dragon

TALKING animals are common enough in fiction, but except in the Disney world they are not often seen in films.

Now Universal-International have screened Francis. With him you will see Donald O'Connor, Patricia Medina, Zasu Pitts, and others, but there is no doubt that Francis, an American Army mule, steals the picture named after him, and he thoroughly deserves to do so.

Peter Sterling (Donald O'Connor) is an American bank clerk returned to his home town after the Burma campaign. The bank manager sends for Peter to

ANIMALS seem to be in the film news just now. In The Dragon of Pendragon Castle, John Baxter has made another of his very entertaining children's pictures. Peter and Judy Fielding live at a Cornish castle with their mother and grandfather; the family are obliged to take paying guests because they have not very much money. Unfortunately, the castle is so cold that few of the guests stay for long.

One day Bobby (David Hannaford), their handyman's nephew, sees a dragon on the sands. He is only six or seven but he is not



Peter Sterling (Donald O'Connor) introduces Francis, the talking mule, to the incredulous Lieut-General Stevens (John McIntyre)

tell him that he has heard some very unusual complaints about Peter, who asks if he may tell his story; and his story is the film.

In the jungle Peter met a mule, and the animal astounded him by talking in perfectly good American. Francis warned Peter that there was a Japanese observation post in the neighbourhood, and very kindly he told Peter how he could capture it single-handed.

Peter is a simple soul, and when he tells his colonel that he has received the news from a mule, it is not surprising that the colonel sends him off to a mental hospital, where he is given basket-making to do. As the doctors cannot find anything wrong with him Peter is sent back to duty, and in a short time Francis talks to Peter again and he makes some more astonishing captures. After each one he returns to the mental hospital, because he always insists on giving the credit to Francis.

At last the American General commanding the area hears about Francis and Peter and he comes to make investigations for himself, and then ...

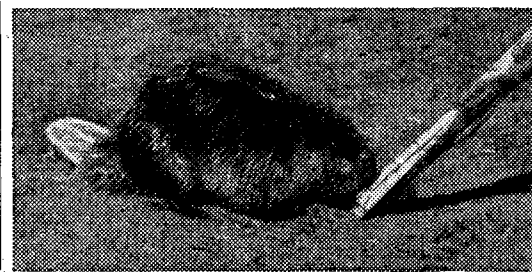
Peter finishes his story and the bank manager decides to have a look at Francis for himself. He is in Peter's garage, and when the bank manager challenges him to speak, he looks wearily out at the audience, and remarks: "Here we go again, folks!" and that is The End.

Arthur Lubin directs Francis, and he has done a most ingenious piece of work. You can see and hear Francis speak, and he talks far more sense than anyone else does in this most amusing picture

at all frightened of it and removes a stone from its paw. After that the dragon follows him to the castle, where it lives in the dungeon, and as soon as it has been fed it breathes fire and provides a most efficient central-heating system for the castle. Soon it shows that it is able to be even more helpful, and in addition it gives some unpleasant people a severe shock.

This is a most amusing film, and David Hannaford has one of the most expressive faces I have ever seen. John Baxter knows exactly what children like and he has given them a generous helping in The Dragon of Pendragon Castle.

IN The Mysterious Poacher, made by G-B Instructional Ltd, for Children's Entertainment Films, Don Chaffey tells an exciting story with a lovely Austrian background of lake and forest. The actors are all Austrian, but a simple commentary makes the picture perfectly easy to follow. The Mysterious Poacher is at least as good as the same studio's The Lone Climber, which also had an Austrian background, and that is high praise indeed. Miss Mary Field, the producer, is to be congratulated on both of them.



ELEMENT 97 New Man-Made Atom

ACCORDING to a statement recently issued by the University of California, another element has been made by scientists. The largest atom yet made by Man or Nature, its atomic number is 97, and with its addition to the Atomic Table the number of known elements is also 97.

The scientists who are reported to have created this new element are Professor Glenn T. Seaborg, and Doctors Stanley G. Thompson and Albert Ghiorso. They have suggested that the element be christened Berkelium, the University of California being at Berkeley, California.

The announcement is not surprising to the world's atomic scientists, who anticipate that with the perfection of new equipment other elements of an even greater weight and atomic number will be "manufactured." Three other elements already made by man are Plutonium, which is used in the making of atom-bombs, Americium, and Curium.

Professor Seaborg, who is only 37, has taken an important part in the discovery of all of them. He has been aided by the University of California's two giant-size cyclotrons, which can bombard heavy and unstable elements with atomic bullets, changing the internal structure of their atoms.

Explosions on Mars

A Scientific Correspondent here writes about the explosion on Mars which was observed last month.

WAS the explosion the outcome of volcanic activity, or was it due to the Martians experimenting with some sort of atomic energy?

Astronomers are inclined to discount the first theory, and the second is, of course, in the realm of pure fancy—Martians exist only in the imagination of novelists.

Astronomical opinion is that the explosion was due to the impact of a heavenly body, probably an asteroid, on the surface of Mars. Dr E. J. Opik, research associate of Armagh Observatory in Ireland, has made such impacts a field for special study, and has worked out careful calculations on the probability of such collisions occurring.

He has calculated the likely frequency of explosions of this kind, and has come to the conclusion that an observable impact should happen roughly every two years. This is due to the quantity of small bodies called asteroids which circulate in the neighbourhood of Mars. The asteroids are thought to be the remains of a planet which once circled the Sun between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, and which broke up into countless fragments after a catastrophe which disintegrated it.

Sometimes one of these fragments strays close to the Earth, becomes caught up in the Earth's

gravitational field, and crashes down on it. Such a body once crashed on the Arizona desert, and there are others scattered over the Earth's surface. The meteor crater in Arizona is about three-quarters of a mile in diameter, and Dr Opik has calculated that an impact of this size should happen on Mars once every hundred years. Smaller impacts would, of course, be more frequent.

The impact of such a body, weighing millions of tons, would be more powerful than the explosion of an atomic bomb. It would be an actual explosion, with a flash of light on impact, and the showering of debris over a wide area. The missile would be travelling at about 20 miles per second.

Dr Opik's calculations will be of interest to astronomers all over the world. He, together with Dr E. M. Lindsay, chief astronomer at Armagh Observatory, will be keeping watch on the planet after the explosion of January 16, as indeed will astronomers far and wide.

WONDER ENGINE

A NEW Diesel engine, recently demonstrated by a Stockport firm, is said to be four times as powerful as engines twice its size; yet vibration is so slight that a half-crown may be balanced on edge on the casing while the engine is in motion.

In addition to many stationary industrial uses, the engine may be used to run trains and ships.

The Beaver's Cosy, Self-Contained Flat

THE beaver at Whipsnade this winter built himself a lodge, as the homes made by beavers are called in North America, though in this country, of course, it does not need one.

In Canada, where there may be five months of frost and snow, beavers must have lodges to protect them from the extreme cold, as well as for protection against wolves, grizzly bears, wolverines and mountain-lions who grow fiercer and hungrier as the hard weather continues and food becomes more scarce.

None of these enemies can break into a beaver's home, for its roof and walls are as strong as concrete. To gain this strength, a beaver reinforces his home in the autumn by placing

layer after layer of thatch and mud upon it, allowing each layer to freeze hard before applying the next.

Some lodges are fixed to their dams, some to islands, and others to the shore of a lake. But all overhang the water, and beavers take particular care to see that the floor is dry; it is made of wood, and is round (about six feet across), the domed room being about three feet high in the centre.

The floor is a few inches above water-level, and in it are two openings, one leading by a straight channel to the food supply of branches of soft wood trees, such as poplar, alder, and willow; these are anchored in the mud below the lodge, having

been stored there during the summer months. Every day in the winter one of the beavers dives down the channel to keep it from freezing and brings up a branch or two. The bark is eaten, and then the branch is anchored to the bottom again for use later in repairing the dam.

The inside of the lodge is plastered smoothly with mud, the young beavers helping with this work. They carry the mud in their clever little paws and smooth it down with the sides of their heads. A wide ledge is made round the walls and covered with mattresses of dry wood-chips.

On these beds the beavers sleep for many hours during the winter, but, whatever the weather, they leave them to mend their dam should anything break it; their safety depends on their dam being in good repair, for it holds up the water behind it, making a pond so deep that it will not freeze right up in winter, and in summer gives them refuge.

If danger is sensed, beavers give a warning as loud as a pistol shot by smacking their tails on the water. At once all the colony rush to the lake, dive in, closing their nostrils and dropping their heart-beat from one hundred to fifty so that they can lie flat on the bottom in safety; they are able to remain there for fifteen minutes, if need be.

In their cosy home a family of beavers will pass the bitter months comfortable and contented, even if the temperature falls to sixty below zero; and as they sleep and rest they store up energy for the summer, when they are active by day and night—felling trees, digging canals, strengthening the dam, training and playing with their kittens.



In the summer the beavers are busy day and night. The picture on the right shows one repairing the dam after dark. In the picture below we see a beaver dragging a branch to the lake

A School Holds Its Own Election



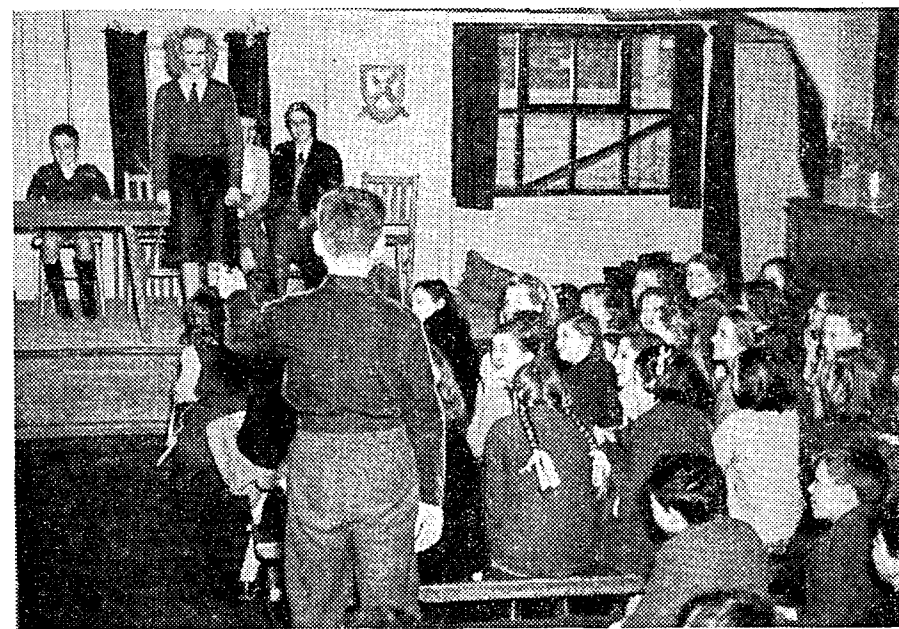
Angela Clark, one of the candidates, makes an election speech



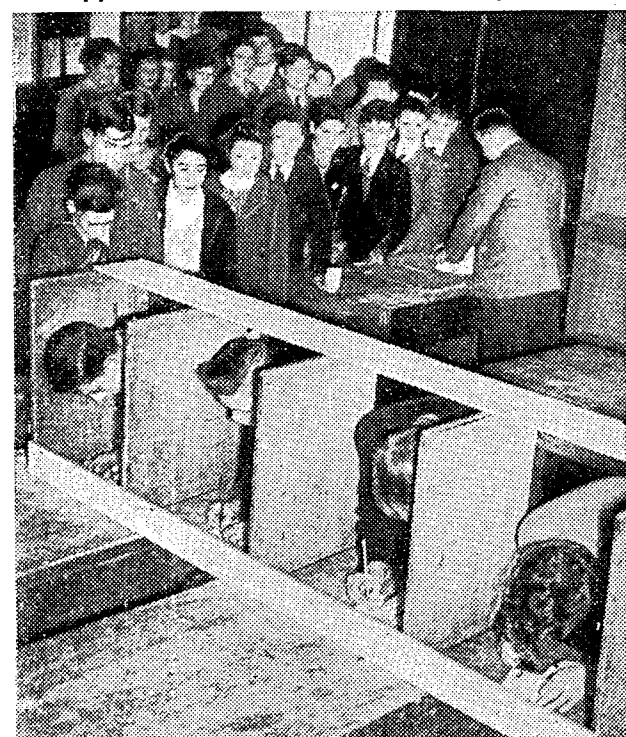
Some of the voters read an election poster in the school



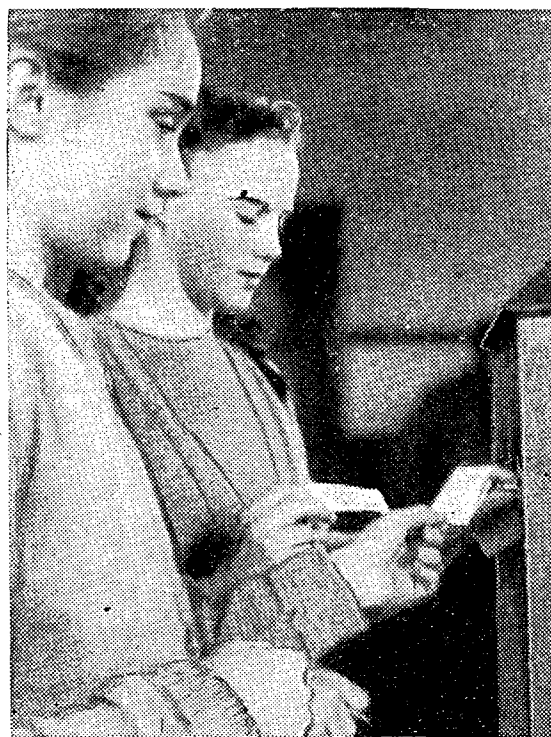
A supporter of one of the candidates puts her case from the platform



A member of the audience asks a candidate a question



Voting in progress in the polling booth



Putting votes into the ballot box



The elected—Richard Mellor and Vivian Martin

The boys and girls of Lingfield Secondary School, Surrey, held their own "General Election" when they went to the polls to elect a new Head Boy and a new Head Girl, to succeed those who left last term. There were four

candidates for each post, and the election was a small-scale version of a parliamentary election, with slogans, canvassing, speeches, and a secret ballot—a lesson in democracy which is practised in many other schools.



For the School Picture Gallery

The LCC are building up a "lending library" of framed prints of Old Masters and modern paintings, for display in schools. Here is the Art master of a London Secondary school making a selection at County Hall.

TALENTED CRANK

CHARLES PIAZZI SMYTH, who died on February 28 fifty years ago, was part hero, part scientist, and part crank. The son of a fighting admiral who charted Mediterranean waters and later mapped the skies from his own observatory at Bradford, Charles took his second name from an Italian astronomer who was his godfather. After quitting Bedford Grammar School, young Smyth became assistant astronomer at the Cape of Good Hope when only 16, and there observed Halley's Comet and began a valuable career in astronomy.

At 26 he was appointed Astronomer-Royal for Scotland, a post that he filled for 43 years. He did much good work with the spectroscope, mapping the spectrum of the Sun, and afforded delight to the boys and girls of Edinburgh by devising for the Scottish capital a scheme for causing the daily fall of a ball at noon, a time-keeping practice

that was later superseded by gunfire.

Smyth also occupied his time in fanciful speculations on the Great Pyramid of Egypt, which he measured and minutely described. It is a monument to the enslavement of the entire Egyptian nation of old time; Smyth saw in it the fruit of plans divinely revealed to its builder. But the paper he wrote on it was refused by the Royal Society, together with the cryptogram which he believed showed at last how the circle could be squared.

The Smyths were supposed to be descended from the immortal Captain John Smith of Elizabethan Virginia, and certainly Piazzzi Smyth had the true spirit of the adventurer; he travelled far in the Old World and the New to advance his science, and, despite some of his foolish beliefs, he had many friends to honour and admire him into an old age that ended at Clova, near Ripon, just half a century ago.

Animals in the News

There has been news recently of several brave and intelligent actions by animals.

A BLACK and white collie dog named Rally saved the life of his master who was attacked by a bull at Radcliffe-on-Trent. The bull lifted the farmer, Mr. A. Jameison, on his horns. Rally seized the chain attached to the bull's nose, knowing that thus the animal could be controlled, and hung on while his master, whose ankle was broken, managed to free himself and crawl to safety under a fence. The farmer then called Rally, who also made his escape. Rally has been awarded the Silver Medal of the PDSA.

WE do not often think of ducks as heroic, but a brave mother duck fought a five-foot snake on the Murrumbidgee River, Australia, not long ago. The snake had taken one of her ducklings in its mouth. The mother, only a small black duck, attacked it fiercely and went on fighting the monster until a man who was out shooting happened to come along. He killed the snake, and the duckling then wriggled its way out and went back to its mother, none the worse!

ANOTHER duck, an English one living at Evesham, has made friends with a moorhen and often

gives her smaller chum a ride on her back.

FROM America come the stories of a skunk that has learned to drive a toy motor car, a goat that can do a tap-dance, and a bee which is said to have been taught to buzz in the Morse code!

IF animals can reason some humans cannot—the thief in California, for example, who went round stealing homing pigeons from their owners' lofts. Of course, the birds all flew home again.

IN THE CAUSE OF YOUNG MIGRANTS

THE Big Brother Movement of New South Wales, Australia, has received the best part of a fortune under the will of Mr Thomas Gunning, of Mosman, Sydney, who passed on the other day.

Mr Gunning ordered that his home at Mosman should be retained, and extended for use as a hostel for young people who migrate to New South Wales.

Mr Gunning was a veteran of the South African War, and was an expert swimmer and lifesaver in his day.

HIS OWN POSTMAN

MR DAVE SNODY, sheep farmer and smallholder on the lonely banks of Loch Shin, in Sutherland, has the rare distinction of being paid by the Post Office to collect his own letters.

When Mr Snody first settled at Loch Shin one of the first things he discovered was that the postman came no farther than the other side of the loch, and that to obtain his letters he had either to row a mile across the loch or follow a rough seven-mile sheep track round the loch. But as the Post Office was obliged to see that the mail reached its destination an agreement was made: Mr Snody was paid 10s a week for collecting his letters twice weekly.

This arrangement worked well till the hard winter of 1947. One morning Mr Snody awoke to find Loch Shin frozen from bank to bank. Rowing a boat was out of the question, and a round trip of fourteen miles along the sheep-track not very inviting. Could he trust himself on the ice?

Then he hit on a bright idea. Taking a small ladder, he stepped between the two middle rungs and drew the ladder up to his arm-pits. With the ladder projecting fore and aft he then ventured on the ice, secure in the knowledge that if he went through the ladder would bear him up. However, the ice held and Mr Snody reached the other side in safety; and after that he cycled over the frozen surface of the loch until the thaw came.

Learning by Teaching

AN Australian artist who recently won an important prize says he did so "by accident."

The artist, Arthur Murch, was teaching a pupil how to paint a portrait. He took the pupil himself as the subject and showed him how to make the final approach to the laying-out of a portrait. As the lessons went on, Mr Murch began to realise that he was putting something into this portrait of his pupil which his previous entries for the prize had lacked.

He entered the picture and won Australia's richest art award, the Archibald prize of £500.

Icyclist



A common sight in the mountains of Switzerland is this type of ice-cycle—or Gummet, as it is called—with skids instead of wheels. On it the children race home down the icy roads after school.

The Editor's Table

A NEW PARLIAMENT

THE benches at Westminster will soon be filled with a new gathering of M Ps. Some will have been there before, and will be glad to be back again; others will be newcomers, proud to enter Parliament for the first time, and aglow with the opportunity to shape the affairs of State.

This will be the thirty-ninth Parliament of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. Its roots reach back to the thirteenth century, and the ancient traditions and stately ceremonies will again exert their fascination over the chosen 625.

But the thing that matters above all else is that in the Palace of Westminster they will



Waiting for the occupants

be conducting the nation's business, and that on the way they conduct it depends the good name and the welfare of all who live in these islands. A heavy responsibility lies upon them. Whoever may prove to be the elected of the people let them begin their onerous duties with the good wishes of all the people.

QUESTIONS FOR LAWGIVERS

TALLAHASSEE, the capital city of Florida, U.S.A., should now provide a model in State government. A small plaque has been placed on the desk of each member of Florida's Parliament House on which the following questions confront him:

Is it the truth?
Is it fair to all concerned?
Will it build good will and better friendship?
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

These plaques, made of black plastic, were presented by the Rotary Club of Tallahassee.

Safety on the Railways, Peril on the Roads

LAST year no passenger was killed in a collision on British Railways, yet in the same period about 175,000 persons were killed or injured on the roads.

Stressing this fact in a recent letter to The Times, the Secretary of the Pedestrians' Association pointed out that this grave social problem had not received the barest mention in the programmes of any of the major political parties.

Young people, however, are turning their attention keenly to this problem during this Children's Safety Year.

STUDENT HELPS STUDENT

ALL over the world students are helping students through the International Students Service. At Moni Pendeli near Athens eighteen girl students are being given a rest cure at a cost of £9 a head. In many European countries colleges and universities are short of equipment; the I S S is planning to spend £2650 in their aid.

In China students are being helped to purchase food and soya beans. All over the world there is a shortage of textbooks, so I S S is arranging for supplies of books from this country and America for students in Central Europe. In Britain students are aiming at raising £10,000 in 1950 to help other students.

It's the poor that help the poor, says the old tag. It's the students that help the students, says the I S S.

The Two Peoples of Southern Rhodesia

THE high ideals of Rhodesians in their relations with Africans were well expressed recently by Mr Justice Tredgold, addressing the Native Welfare Society in Southern Rhodesia.

"There is only one way of fighting Communism and similar ideologies and that is by satisfying everyone, regardless of race or colour, that we have something better to offer," he said. "Societies such as this have a tremendous contribution to make, and unless these societies or somebody else makes this contribution, Western civilisation will not survive in Africa. . . . Ultimately, the government of any people must be with their consent. In some ways we are lucky in our native population. We feel they take their responsibilities lightly, but they are very law-abiding and for the most part have an almost pathetic desire to be loyal. We can alienate this by doing things they resent, because one of the most remarkable features of the African is his strong sense of justice."

Under the E



PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If voters will be at cross purposes on election day

ADULTS are more in need of road sense than children, someone says. That will make them cross.

A CANVASSER says the most important election work is done on the doorstep. Only a candidate gets in.

HOW will the man in the street vote? By going into a polling booth.

PASSENGERS on the Irish Mail can obtain light refreshments all night. Their rail fare.



ONLY An

Newspaper

THINGS SAID

WE women earned the vote and won it, but I do not think we have made the best use of it. When British women do make the best use of their vote it will be a blessing to the whole world.

Mrs Helena Normanton, K C

WE shall win back our distinctive place in the markets of the world, and I think we shall do that through the quality of our goods.

Secretary of Department of Scientific & Industrial Research

THE cocker spaniel is the most popular breed of dog in England.

Chairman of the Kennel Club

CHARLES DICKENS has contributed more to celebrate, to illustrate, and to reveal the life of this country to more people on this earth than any writer since the time of William Shakespeare.

Sir Thomas Beecham

Books Bring Back Health

READING plays a part in curing people in hospital, and the St John and Red Cross Hospital Library Department needs 300,000 books a year for over 1850 hospitals which it serves. The Department also requires voluntary helpers as book collectors, bookbinders, and repairers.

Appealing for this help recently, Lady Lenanton, who is herself the writer Carola Oman, said the Department serves not only hospitals, but institutions, sanatoria, and prison hospitals. It should be remembered, she continued, that for tuberculous patients, not only light reading, but technical books are needed, for they often continue their studies.

This is a splendid voluntary service to which more of our young people might be willing to give some of their spare time.

JUST AN IDEA

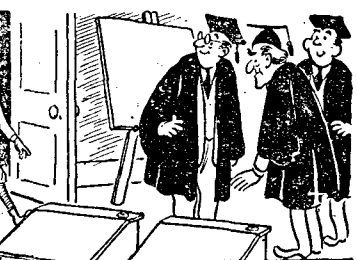
He who is wrong in the tens will be wrong in the thousands.

Editor's Table

A WINDMILL is for sale at Harbury in Warwickshire. Who will raise the wind?

MANY people are voting for the first time. They ought to vote for one of the candidates.

A SCIENTIST says flight to the Moon is nearer than most people think. The Moon isn't.



One boy attends a certain school in America. Top boy.

Electioneering Long Ago

CANDIDATES are not creatures very susceptible of affronts, and would rather, I suppose, climb in at a window than be absolutely excluded. In a minute the yard, the kitchen, and the parlour were filled. Mr Grenville advancing towards me, shook me by the hand with a degree of cordiality that was extremely seducing.

As soon as he and as many more as could find chairs were seated, he began to open the intent of his visit. I told him I had no vote, for which he readily gave me credit. I assured him I had no influence, which he was not equally inclined to believe. Supposing I could be possessed of such a treasure without knowing it, I ventured to confirm my first assertion by saying that if I had any, I was utterly at a loss to imagine where it could be, or wherein it consisted. Thus ended the conference. Mr Grenville squeezed me by the hand again, kissed the ladies, and withdrew.

William Cowper, in a letter written in 1784

PANCAKE REMINDER

MOST of us have the happy knack of remembering that Shrove Tuesday is Pancake Day, but at Wimborne in Dorset, no chances are taken. There the great tenor bell of the Minster is rung at eleven o'clock to warn good housewives to prepare the pancakes, as it has been from time immemorial.

Wimborne Minster boasts a fine peal of ten bells, and the tenor bell is its special pride, for it was presented as long ago as 1429, by a canon named William Loringe.

This famous church also keeps up the old custom of ringing the Curfew to toll "the knell of parting day" every evening at eight o'clock.

The Gracious Power

BLEST be that gracious Power, who taught mankind To stamp a lasting image of the mind; Beasts may convey, and tuneful birds may sing, Their mutual feelings in the opening Spring; But man alone has skill and power to send The heart's warm dictates to the distant friend; 'Tis his also to please, instruct, advise, Ages remote, and nations yet to rise.

George Crabbe

IMAGINATION

It is the divine attribute of the imagination, that it is irrepressible and unconfined, and where the real world is shut out, it can create a world for itself and . . . conjure up glorious shapes and forms, and brilliant visions, to make solitude populous, and irradiate the gloom of a dungeon.

Washington Irving

February 25, 1950



Up He Goes

During a demonstration flight of an American helicopter designed for rescue work, a man is lifted from the ground and taken up into the aircraft.

BADMINTON TO THE FORE

THE All-England Badminton Championships take place next week (March 1-4) at the Empress Hall, Earls Court. This tournament was first staged in 1899 as a one-day event; today it attracts the world's finest players of this popular game.

Dave Freeman, the hard-hitting young American who won the men's singles last year without losing a game, is a doctor and this year cannot spare the time to compete; and his title may be taken by one of the two Malaysians, Wong Peng Soon, from Singapore, and E. I. Choong, captain of this year's Cambridge University team. The Irish champion, Frank Peard, from Dublin, is also in grand form.

The strongest all-round challenge, however, will come from Denmark. Among the men will be Jorn Skaarup, the 1948 champion, and the women's team will include Miss Kirsten Thorndahl, the 21-year-old left-hander who won three titles in 1948, and Miss Anse Svendsen, who was runner-up last year.

Romany Scholarships

THE Romany Society was formed to commemorate the work and influence of the Revd G. Bramwell Evens, who won fame under the name of "Romany" for his talks on the countryside. The Society has announced that it offers school-leaving exhibitions worth £100 to two schools to encourage young naturalists.

DAY OF DESTINY

THURSDAY, February 23, is, the politicians say, Britain's Day of Destiny. Then all legally-qualified men and women of 21 and over will vote to send 625 M.P.s to the House of Commons.

Some three times as many candidates have been nominated, mainly by the two big parties—Labour (Socialist), which had a majority of 140 seats over all other parties and groups in the old Parliament of 640 members; and Conservative (Tory), which with 207 M.P.s (of whom 13 were their allies, the National Liberals) formed His Majesty's Opposition.

By the end of the week we shall know the composition of the new House summoned to meet on March 1, and the nature of the new Government and the names of its principal members.

To bring all this about no legal compulsion is used. But it is anticipated that 75 to 80 per cent of the 34 million people whose names are on the electoral register will vote.

These will go to the district's polling booth, the polling clerk will tick off their names on the register (they cannot vote if they are not on it), and they will be handed a slip of paper bearing the printed names of the candidates.

Against the one they favour they will mark X. No other mark must be made, otherwise the paper is "spoilt" and the vote invalid.

Secrecy is jealously kept. Each voter marks his X in a little stall where he cannot be seen by a voter in the next one. Then he folds his paper and drops it through a slit into a steel box. (Sick and blind folk and hospital patients can vote by post. So can people unable to get to the poll because of their duty hours.

At the end of the day the boxes, examined to make sure no one has tampered with them, are collected under police guard.

British Museum Television

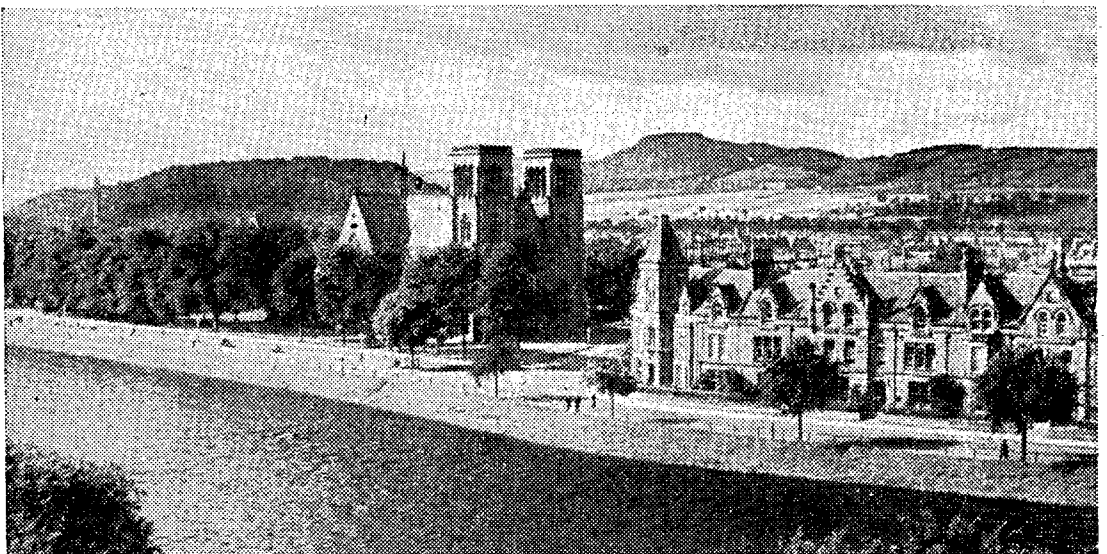
BRITISH MUSEUM treasures are to be televised every month from a "Television Corner" set up in the Edward VII Gallery. The series is called Private Views.

The Portland Vase, the gold cup used by the kings of France, Viking antiquities unearthed in Suffolk, ancient Egyptian relics, and one of the contemporary manuscript copies of the Magna Carta are among the treasures it is hoped to televise.

90s = £9000

A SHEET of 60 stamps printed for the Aden State of Shihr and Mukalla was found the other day by a London dealer to have an astonishing omission: the stamps had not been surcharged with the mark "one rupee."

The whole sheet instead of being worth £4 10s is now valued at £9000, each stamp, originally worth one shilling and sixpence, now being worth £150. The sheet had been lying about for three months before the dealer made the discovery.



OUR HOMELAND

St Andrew's Cathedral, Inverness, on a bank of the River Ness

God Save Our King and Duke

A STONE'S throw from the busy traffic of the Strand in London stands a quiet chapel where the National Anthem is sung thus:

*God save our Lord the King,
Long live our Noble Duke,
God save our King.*

The chapel is the Chapel Royal of the Savoy, which is the only surviving link with the Savoy Palace built here about 1245 by Henry the Third for his wife's uncle, Peter, a prince of the ancient Italian House of Savoy.

This and many other interesting facts are given in The Official Year-Book of the Church of England (Church Assembly and S P C K, 12s 6d).

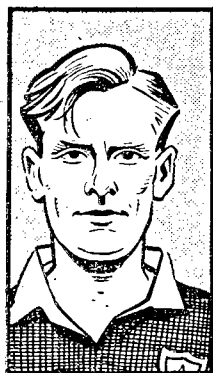
The Palace passed into the possession of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and was burned down by Wat Tyler and his rebels in 1381. In 1399 Henry the Fourth annexed the Manor of the Savoy together with the other estates of the House of Lancaster. But the king declared that the estates of the dukedom were a separate inheritance from that of the Sovereign. So people in the Savoy Chapel still honour the King as their Duke.

FOR INVALID CHILDREN

THE first group of 20 invalid boys have gone to stay at the new Andrew Duncan Home at Shiplake-on-Thames. The home is a big converted farmhouse that has been given by Colonel and Mrs Ronald Duncan to the Invalid Children's Aid Association as a memorial to their son, Andrew Duncan, Grenadier Guards, who was killed in Germany during the war.

The boys will stay there for six weeks, or longer if that is necessary to restore their health, and a local committee has been formed to organise older people to accompany the boys when in the summer they swim and go out in boats in a safe part of the river.

Steps to Sporting Fame



Portsmouth and England outside-left, Jack Froggatt was born in Sheffield 26 years ago and went to school at Hillsborough with his cousin Redfern.



Both boys were good footballers and both were selected to represent their city in school soccer, though at different times. Jack's father then moved to Portsmouth and the cousins separated.



During the war Jack played centre-half in a Services match, with Tommy Lawton the opposing centre-forward. Lawton urged Everton to sign on Froggatt. But he joined Portsmouth in 1945.

Jack Froggatt



Redfern joined Sheffield Wednesday, and both have played for England, though not together. But for Redfern's injuries they would be left-wing partners against Holland this week.

Fewer Insects, More Meat

GREATLY increased supplies of meat from South America are likely because of a new insecticide, produced by the oil industry, which has had remarkable success against the tick and the berrie, two parasites which attack cattle there, and threatened wholesale destruction among South America's herds.

The insecticide is a compound of toxaphene and a petroleum solvent. Toxaphene is obtained by blending camphine and chlorine.

Here is one example of the insecticide's effect. A pedigree bull was so persistently attacked by the ticks that men had to pick them off by hand all day long. Then the bull was given a single spraying with the insecticide—which cost less than sixpence—and as a result it gained over 100 lbs in weight in a month.

The time needed to fatten steers used to be four years; now, by the use of the insecticide, the time has been reduced to just over two years.

A sufficient quantity of the insecticide to treat 600,000 cattle will go to South American cattle-men this year. Next year enough for ten million treatments will be sent to Brazil alone.

YOUTH TAKES ITS CUE

NEXT week sees the start of this year's Youths' Billiards Championship at Burroughes & Watts' Hall, in London. This event was inaugurated last year to encourage lads between the ages of 16 and 18 who are too old for the boys' championships (under 16) and too young for the senior competitions.

Last year's winner was Gerald Toner, from Londonderry, a young auctioneer's clerk. Gerald is crossing from Northern Ireland to defend his title, but he is expected to get stern opposition from Rex Williams, a Midlander who in 1947 and 1948 won the boys' championship.

ENGLISH THE KEY FOR NEW AUSTRALIANS

A correspondent in Australia sends us these notes on a great social development which is now taking place in the Commonwealth.

WALK along the streets of any Australian city these days and you will hear conversations in one or all of a dozen languages. Almost every week now great ships arrive at the main ports with close-packed human cargoes, part of the world's greatest migration scheme.

From all corners of Europe the migrants come—even from countries behind the Iron Curtain; for many are displaced persons, whose original homelands have been over-run, first by the Germans and then by the Russians. So, for the first time in many years they find themselves no longer Stateless, but actually "belonging." These are the New Australians, on whose behalf enormous efforts are now being made, and who, on their part, meet some great problems.

Foremost, of course, is the language difficulty. One ship alone brought people of 23 nationalities among its 800 passengers, while another which arrived in the

same week with 1200 had very few on board who could speak English.

Yet they all must learn. For it is not the policy of Australia's immigration officials to allow these new arrivals to set up tight little "New Estonias," or "New Pomeranias," or "New Anything Elses" within the Commonwealth. They must all become New Australians—and that as quickly as possible. So the first thing expected of them is that they learn to speak English.

Mixing the Races

Of course they receive much assistance. The Education Department provides teachers, and has a special staff devoted entirely to the instruction of migrants, both adults and children. Also, the national groups are mixed up as much as possible after arrival, so that the need for mastering a common language soon becomes imperative.

Interpreters are available in the camps and hostels which have been set up in all Australian States to receive migrants, so that no man is deprived of his rights through lack of a voice to

demand them. Usually, however, the new arrivals soon get down to the business of mastering the language, for they know that this accommodation is only temporary and they will all find themselves, sooner or later, living among the "old" Australians, who have a deep-rooted preference for English!

In the cities a move is being made to help would-be shoppers over their language difficulties, and a large department store in Melbourne has lately given a lead by setting up a translation bureau for New Australians. This is in charge of a migrant who came to the country ten years ago with an academic knowledge of only English, Italian, and German. While working as a teacher in Melbourne schools she managed to master half a dozen languages, and soon became an English instructress for the Immigration Department.

Over her desk at the store is a large sign which reads: "All Languages Spoken." With a small band of assistants she gives help to shoppers, and includes in her service translations from Greek, Maltese, Arabic, and Hindustani.

TREASURE ISLAND—R. L. Stevenson's Famous Adventure Story Told in Pictures

The Squire's party, who remained on board the Hispaniola when Long John Silver and the others went ashore, would have sailed the ship away—but they could not leave

Jim, who had gone ashore too. They could not stand a siege in the ship as they had not enough water, so they decided to land and hold the old stockade where there

was a spring. They overpowered the six mutineers Long John had left on board—one of whom joined them—and then went ashore with a good supply of food and arms.



The morning after Jim reached the stockade, Long John appeared with a flag of truce. He said that if they would give him the treasure chart he would, after leaving the island, send the first ship he sighted to pick them up. Captain Smollett replied: "You can't find the treasure. You can't sail the ship. I'll put a bullet in your back when next I meet you." With dreadful threats and oaths Long John hobbled off.



The Captain was sure they would be soon attacked. "We're outnumbered, but we fight in shelter," he said. Soon bullets began to hit the log-house. The attackers swarmed over the outer fence and ran up to the little fort. Close under its walls they could not be shot. One of them seized a defender's musket, and jabbing its owner with it knocked him senseless. Another attacked the Doctor with a cutlass.



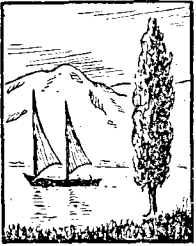
The defender's position became desperate. "Out, lads, and fight 'em in the open! Cutlasses!" cried the Captain. Jim seized a cutlass and running out met the big bosun who swung up his sword. Jim leapt to one side, slipped and rolled over, but the bosun was cut down by one of the loyal men, another pirate was shot, and another disposed of by the Doctor. The rest fled into the woods, and did not attack again.



Captain Smollett was wounded and two of the loyal men were dead. After talking things over quietly with the Squire and the Captain, Dr Livesey, well-armed, went off by himself. Jim guessed that he was going off to find Ben Gunn, the castaway whom Jim had met. Then Jim thought out a wild scheme of his own and, when no one was looking, he took two pistols, slipped out over the palisade, and made for the place where Ben Gunn had told him he kept his home-made boat.

What madcap notion has Jim got into his head? See next week's instalment

The Children's Newspaper, February 25, 1950



JANE & DAVID ON TOUR

New Series of Short Stories

by GEOFFREY TREASE

Decision For Donia

"WHAT on earth is the matter with Donia?" David whispered, staring along the hotel terrace.

Jane turned her head to look. The spring sunshine poured down like liquid gold, and the Alps seemed to float like silver-sprinkled clouds midway between the blue of the sky and the blue of Lake Geneva.

Donia, the young ballet-dancer, was strolling up and down in a rather self-conscious manner. Finally she came to rest and gaped her slim figure artistically against a low wall, as if admiring the view of the city reflected in the water.

"Bet she isn't seeing a thing in front of her," Jane chuckled. "Her eyes are in the back of her head!"

"How do you mean?" "She's thinking about that fat American sitting with the newspaper. Wants him to notice her! He's Mr Steinberg, the American film producer. Mr Wallace told me."

"Aha! I begin to see daylight."

"Our darling Donia never misses a chance," said Jane. "Perhaps she sees herself as another Moira Shearer, starring in a Hollywood imitation of The Red Shoes!"



THE CN NATIONAL HANDWRITING TEST

Prizes Worth Over £750 to be Won!

Schools and colleges in all parts of Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Eire continue to apply for Entry Forms for the great CN Handwriting Test of 1950. All boys and girls who are full-time pupils at schools in this area may enter, providing they are under 17 years of age—and, moreover, there are THREE AGE GROUPS so that all have an equal opportunity of winning.

This is the second annual writing contest sponsored by CN, and as 1950 is the year of the Children's Safety Campaign an adaptation of the well-known "Kerb Drill" has been selected as the Test Passage to be written. Each entrant has simply to copy out this passage—which is given on the Entry Form—in the style of writing he or she is taught at school. Remember there are the following

• Cash Prizes in Each Group

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
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A Certificate of Merit will be awarded for the best entry from each school submitting no fewer than 20 entries and not otherwise represented in the prize list.

Readers are asked especially to note that entries must be made on the free Entry Form which is issued only through schools. If you would like to enter, therefore, show this announcement to your Teacher and ask him or her kindly to complete the coupon here and send it to CN.

Remember, there is an age group for you. The test may be done in school or at home, at the discretion of the Teacher, who is asked to sign the entry on completion. When sent in, every entry is to have affixed to it one of the tokens (marked CN Writing Test 1950) now appearing in every copy of the Newspaper. You will find one at the foot of the back page of this issue.

The Closing Date for entries is Friday, March 31. When returned, each completed entry is to be sent in as part of the school's total entry, in accordance with the competition rules printed on the Entry Form.

To Teachers! The Entry Form to be used in this competition contains the Test Passage, space for the pupil's effort, and full rules and particulars. It is being issued only in answer to school application! Teachers desiring to enter their pupils are asked to be good enough to complete this application coupon, and send it to Children's Newspaper as soon as possible. The forms will then be sent post free. Last date for form application, February 28.

(NB—Id stamp only required for this coupon if the envelope is left unsealed.)

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Competition Department,
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(Comp).

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CN National Handwriting Test
of 1950 Entry Forms for my
pupils.

PRINCIPAL/FORM
MASTER or MISTRESS

School.....

School Address.....

"She's not made much impression so far."

THE burly American continued to puff at his cigar and read his New York Times as though no beautiful young dancer was posed within twenty yards of his square-framed spectacles. At last, in despair, Donia produced a cigarette and, with a graceful flourish, flicked her lighter. Nothing happened. That did not surprise the children: they had heard Donia complain that her lighter was empty, only half an hour before. But again she flicked it, noisily, and with a cry of annoyance. Still nothing happened—either to the lighter or to the American. He went on reading.

"She'll have to ask him for a match," Jane murmured.

Donia began to move towards the innocent Mr Steinberg, the unlit cigarette in her extended hand. But before she could reach him, a young Swiss student who had been haunting her in a love-sick manner ever since the opera company had arrived in Geneva, leapt into action with a lighter already aflame. Foiled in her plan, Donia held out her cigarette, rewarding the poor youth with a black scowl in place of the smile he deserved.

Jane and David hugged themselves with delight and nearly burst with pent-up laughter.

ALAS for Donia! There were only two members of the British party in whom the great film-producer showed the slightest interest. And—alas for Jane and David!—they were the two.

Mr Steinberg had no children of his own, and he was apt to get sentimental about any others he encountered.

"He's dreadful," Jane confided to her father. "He keeps offering me chewing-gum—and he calls me his 'little girl'!"

"What about me?" groaned David. "He calls me 'junior' and keeps making the most feeble jokes every time we meet."

"He insists on taking us out in a launch this afternoon."

"Wouldn't you like that?" said Mr Murray.

"Not with him. Still, we can't very well be rude, I suppose."

Jane went upstairs disconsolately. In the corridor she ran full-tilt into Donia. The girl's eyes were bright with eagerness.

"I say, Jane! Will you do something awfully, awfully special for me?"

Jane looked suspicious. It was not like Donia to come to her asking for favours. "It depends" she began.

"You kids seem to have made a tremendous hit with old Steinberg. He'll do anything you want."

"Except leave us alone!" retorted Jane.

"Listen!" said Donia swiftly. "He's leaving for America any day now. He must see me dance before he goes. Get him to come to the show tonight. He'll be tickled to death if you invite him."

Jane hesitated for a second. But it was hard to resist Donia when her mind was set on something—and it seemed mean to refuse. "All right," she said.

"Bless you, darling! I'll never forget!"

NOR did Jane and David forget that painful evening at the theatre with Mr Steinberg. It

Continued on page 10

"It Looks my Size"

SAID TESSA

1. Last week you saw log-felling in Canada, and how the logs were cut into 'blocks', each one about the size of a last. It was a lovely film.

2. As you remember, shoes are made over the wooden last. Their shape depends on the shape of the last. So the last has to be a good shape! Exactly!

3. Here is a model last being designed. It is carefully done by hand, and all other sizes of this style will be copied from it. It looks my size.

4. Now this is a 'block' of maple wood exactly as it arrived from Canada. And maple doesn't have knots in it. That's right.

5. From the block is turned this first rough shaping—just beginning to look like a last. To get them the same. Yes!

6. And on this machine the lasts are 'smooth-turned'—a pair at a time. More like a Witch's foot!

7. Mother says shoe leather is very important—but the shape of the last is more important. Yes—she says Clarks lasts are so good she doesn't worry about our toes getting pinched! Or our heels getting rubbed. Mother says... She's a sensible woman I can see. Come along next month won't you, and I'll show you the lasts being finished off!

Clarks CHILDREN'S SHOES

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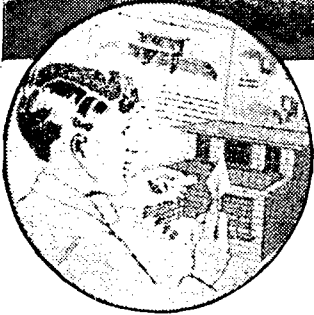
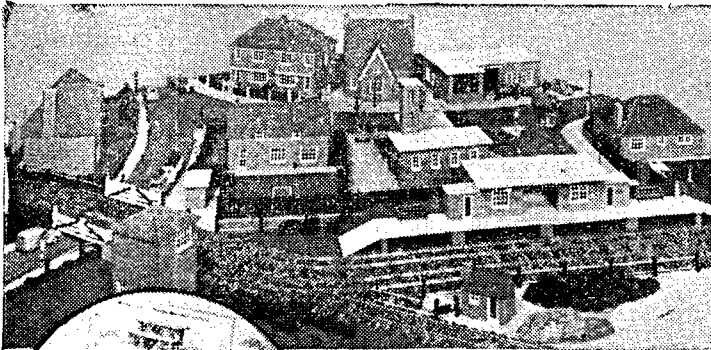
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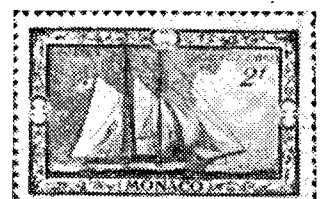


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DECISION FOR DONIA

Continued from page 9.

was clear from his remarks that he knew nothing about operatic music and rather less about ballet. But he seemed to enjoy those brief periods when Donia, slim, graceful, and beautiful, took the centre of the stage.

"That girl's got somethin'," he murmured from the corner of his mouth not filled with cigar. He would have said the same, probably, if he had seen her in a music-hall or a mannequin-display.

"She's got him, anyhow," David whispered in Jane's ear.

It certainly looked like it. Donia was not one to lose time or waste an advantage. After breakfast she received Mr Steinberg's congratulations on the terrace. They lunched together in his private suite. In the afternoon it was Donia who set forth with him in a motor-launch around the lake.

"Good," growled David. "Suits us."

BUT not all these new developments were so good. Nor were they likely to suit the opera company as a whole. Seated in the lounge next morning, the young people could not help hearing the worried conversation between Jane's father and Mr Wallace, the stage-manager. "But it's ridiculous!" Mr Murray was saying. "Suppose he does star her in a film—"

"She says he's promised to." Mr Murray snorted. "Donia's got talent. She's just about worth her present place—chief dancer with an opera company. She's not a Moira Shearer or a Margot Fonteyn, and there's about one chance in ten that she ever will be. If she lets herself be starred in a film now, she'll only make a fool of herself!" "She'll make a lot of money," said the old stage-manager, shrugging his shoulders. "And the publicity."

"I thought better of Donia. I knew she was ambitious—but I did think she cared more for her art than to do this."

"He wants to take her back now—that's what sticks in my gullet!"

"What?" Mr Murray sat bolt upright on the settee. "You mean, she wants to walk out on us—before the end of the tour?"

"I'm afraid so. It's now or never, apparently. Steinberg flies home the day after tomorrow."

"But she'll be breaking her contract with us! She can be sued for damages!"

"She's prepared for that. Says Steinberg will pay."

"It isn't a question of money—it's a question of honour," said Mr Murray furiously. "If Donia goes, we can't get a substitute from England in time. That means we can't do The White Hart for the rest of the tour—the ballet is absolutely essential to it. Do you mean she's prepared to wreck the show for her own ambition?"

"Looks like it. In all my life-long experience of the profession..." began the old stage-manager with dignity, but Mr Murray cut him short.

"It'll serve her right if she never gets another engagement in a British theatre!"

"I fancy that doesn't worry her. The little idiot thinks she's made for life. She doesn't realise that Hollywood glory can quickly fade."

DAVID drew Jane on to the terrace where they could talk unobserved. "The beast!" he said chokily. "She used us. Used us! If we hadn't taken that horrible man to the opera—"

"We must stop her," said Jane desperately. "Look, there she goes—after her!"

Donia swept through the glass doors as proudly as though she

Continued on page 11

BEDTIME CORNER

Pancake Day

BILLY and June raced into the kitchen. "What's for lunch, Mummie?" they called. "Just you wait and see," said Mummie with a smile.

The children sat down at the table and soon Mummie brought in a lovely stew. When she had finished eating, Mummie got up saying: "I shall be a few minutes with the sweet."

Then Billy wanted some water and he went into the kitchen. Mummie was frying something in a pan and as he watched he saw her toss it into the air.

"Pancakes!" hooted Billy. "Why, of course, I'd forgotten it was pancake day. Oh, Mummie, let me toss one."

June heard Billy's cry and came to the kitchen. After

much pleading Mummie let them each try to toss a pancake.

"I didn't know that cooking was so much fun," said Billy. "Can we have pancakes every day? We could help you to cook them!"

But Mummie thought she could get on much quicker without their help, thank you very much!

A Prayer

GOD be in my head
And in my understanding.
God be in mine eyes
And in my looking;
God be in my mouth
And in my speaking;
God be in my heart
And in my thinking;
God be at mine end
And at my departing.

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The Children's Newspaper, February 25, 1950

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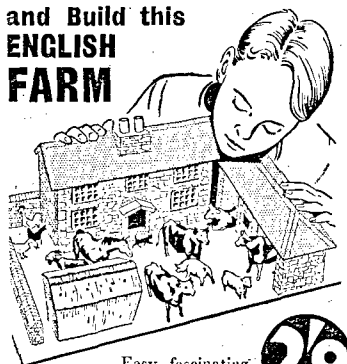
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CN Bookshelf



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ALL lovers of Alice in Wonderland will find delight in this book of the adventures of William who is called Wallace in Underland by the Goopher, one of the quaint characters he meets during his quest. This most entertaining story abounds in odd figures, of course including many of the old favourites met by Alice.

Redskin and Paleface

Wayfaring Lad, by Ivy Bolton (Gryphon Books (6s)).

A 16-YEAR-OLD lad is the hero, a lad condemned as a wastrel and cast out from a settlement of the white pioneers in Tennessee. The thrilling story is of his lone journey in territory inhabited by wild animals and Indians no less wild; and of how he made good.

A Treasure Island

Cocos Gold, by Ralph Hammond (Collins, 8s 6d).

THIS is a fine yarn, telling of the experiences of John Keverne among the mutineers aboard the Sally McCrew and on Cocos Island, south-west of Panama, where men still seek for the fabulous hoard of pirate loot hidden there in 1821. All the adventures that a lad could wish for—and many that none would wish for—come the way of this hero, a modern Jim Hawkins.

Excitement at the Professor's

They Found an Elephant, by Vera Barclay (Herbert Jenkins, 6s).

A VERY skilful blending of a nature book and the interesting experiences of three children who spent their Christmas holidays in the house of a learned professor. Delightfully illustrated by drawings of animals by Agnes Hoffer.

Bantam at Large

Knight of the Woods, by C. T. Stoneham, illustrated by Anton Lock (Sampson Low, 8s 6d).

THE story of Squab, a bantam cock who, after growing up as an ordinary domestic fowl, unexpectedly finds himself living in the wilds. Freedom is exciting and he has many "comb"-raising adventures, but he is not sorry when at last he is recaptured and returns to the safe though humdrum life of the henhouse.

Desert Thrills

The Tower of Darkness, by Hector Hawton (Hodder & Stoughton, 6s).

A PEACEFUL archaeological expedition to the Arabian desert involves Nick and Jennifer in the hazards of a sinister plot for an Arab revolt. There is an exciting climax at the Black Mufti's secret radio station.

Elizabethan Adventure

The Lost Money, by Wallace Nichols (Ward, Lock, 6s).

THE Lost Money belonged to Good Queen Bess herself, and when it disappeared on the way to Cornwall it was fortunate that one of her clerks had a son with a ready sword to take up the trail like a Tudor Dick Barton.

DECISION FOR DONIA

Continued from page 10

were already a world-famous film-star. By running, they overlooked her on the stairs.

"Donia, we want a word with you!"

She turned. "I can't bother with you kids now. I have an appointment with Mr Steinberg at half-past ten." She swept on.

"Kids!" echoed Jane bitterly.

"I bet she's going to sign a contract," said David swiftly. "Well, she's not going to get away with it like that." They raced down the deep-carpeted corridor to the film-producer's private suite. "No good knocking," he panted. "In we go!"

DAVID's guess had been right.

Mr Steinberg, his secretary, and another man were standing at a table, where Donia was sitting before a document, pen in hand. There was a flurry of confusion. Excitedly interrupting each other, Jane and David burst out with all the things that Donia needed to know—but which no grown-up in the company had ever been blunt enough to tell her.

"And if you think you're another Moira Shearer," David wound up furiously, "you've another think coming!"

"Daddie says you'll make a fool of yourself," cried Jane. "The critics will laugh—Hollywood will throw you on the scrap-heap—and if you walk out on our company now, when we need you, you'll never dance in a British theatre again! You don't deserve to, either—we all thought you were an artist, but you only care for money really!"

"That's not true!" Donia jumped to her feet, tears in her eyes. "I don't care what you horrible children say—but is that really what Mr Murray thinks of my dancing?"

"We don't tell lies," said David. And she knew they did not.

Her face twitched. She swung round suddenly to the table, and tore the contract across. "I—I'm sorry, Mr Steinberg, but I've—I've changed my mind. I didn't realise how it would seem to other people—" She rushed from the room.

Jane and David followed. David turned to close the door politely after him. His eyes met those of Mr Steinberg.

"Ah, well," the film producer sighed, "I guess that's that! Thanks a lot—Junior!"

Jane and David will be in Athens next week. Do not miss this splendid story.

Books For Younger Readers

THE Mermaid and the Simpleton, by Barbara Leonie Picard and illustrated by Philip Gough (Oxford University Press, 7s 6d).

Fair Play, by Munro Leaf (Frederick Warne, 5s).

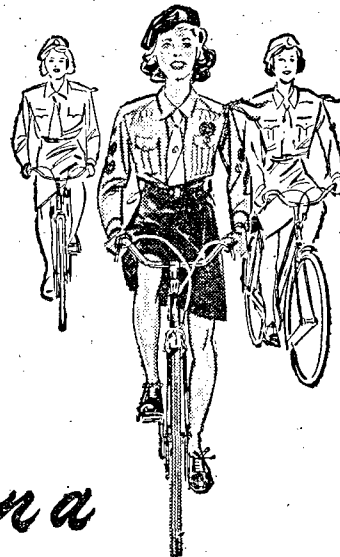
Magic Lanterns, an anthology illustrated by M. C. Green (The Bodley Head, 7s 6d).

Wigley, by Rosemary Barnes and illustrated by Margaret W. Tarrant (Ward, Lock, 6s).

Animals of the Farm, by Margaret Kent and illustrated by E. C. Mansell (George G. Harrap, 3s 6d).

Midsummer Magic, by Ellis Dillon and illustrated by Stuart Tresilian (Macmillan, 6s).

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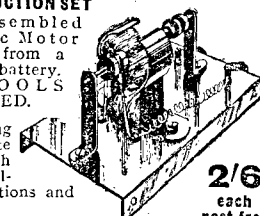
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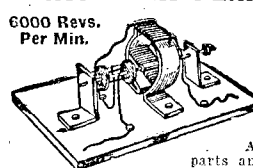
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THE BRAN TUB

RIGHT ABOUT TURN!

THE old Major was talking of his early days in India.

"And, of course, we used to go tiger-hunting—a wonderful sport, so long as you hunt the tiger; but sometimes the tiger takes it into his head to hunt you. Then I must admit the sport has its drawbacks.

ANAGRAM

I'm an underground railway, or, if you prefer,
A thing made of glass, or of metal maybe.
If you change round two letters—my first and my third—
The name of an island in Scotland you'll see. *Answer next week*

Not I

SAMMY SIMPLE was given the following statement to correct: "It was me who broke the window."

Sammy wrote: "It wasn't me who broke the window."

RODDY



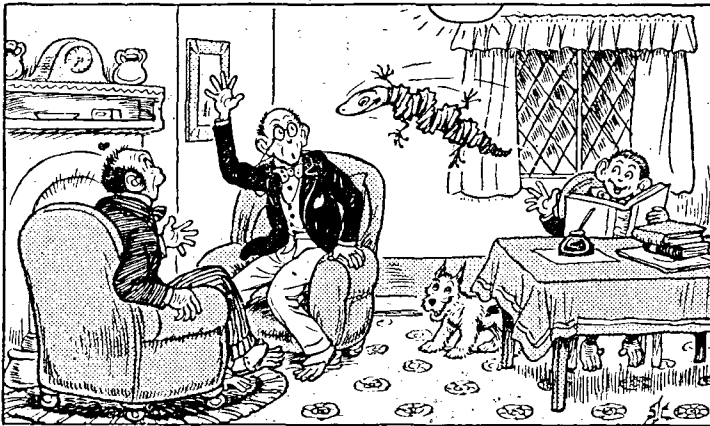
"I needn't go to school any more, Mummie. Teacher says I know all the answers."

DIPLOMACY

"I HOPE you didn't ask for a second helping of cake at the party," said mother to her small son.

"Oh no, Mother. I just asked Mrs Green for the recipe so that you could make some like it, and she gave me another piece without my asking."

Jacko "Springs" a Surprise



PROFESSOR PONGO was visiting Father Jacko, so our hero was ordered to get on with his homework. But he soon tired of irregular verbs and began listening to the professor talking about the queer animals he had encountered on his travels. That gave Jacko an idea, and he produced his jumping lizard. Coiling the spring, he took careful aim and let fly. "Help! It's a Quadrupental Autoxipede—deadly poisonous," cried the professor, hurling himself to safety. But when he saw what it really was it was Jacko's turn to hurl himself to safety!

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Useful Water Voles. "I saw a rat swimming beneath the ice," cried Ann excitedly.

"It must have been a fish," said her brother Don, as both children peered beneath the dark glossy, frozen surface.

"As if I don't know a rat from a fish," protested Ann indignantly.

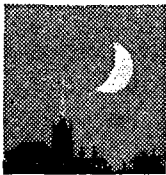
"It was probably a Water Vole," said Farmer Gray, overhearing the children. "Water Voles are often confused with rats although they have round, blunt noses, and their tails are short and hairy. Rats are sharp-featured and have long, scaly tails. By eating water weeds, Voles help to keep our ponds and streams clear. It is a pity that these useful creatures are confused with such rascals as rats."

Camel Facts

BAGGAGE camels cover 40 to 50 miles a day when carrying loads. The camel's nostrils are so constructed that they can be closed during a sandstorm. The Bactrian camel has two humps, and is better adapted to mountainous country than desert. The Arabian camel has one hump and is best for desert transport. They are divided roughly into two classes—the dromedary, a swift-riding camel, and the ordinary baggage camel.

Other Worlds

IN the evening Mars and Saturn are low in the east and Uranus is in the south-east. In the morning Venus is low in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon at 7.30 on Thursday evening, February 23.



Hidden Proverb

EACH number below represents a letter, each group of numbers a word, and the whole stands for a well-known proverb. 1 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 8, 9 10, 11, 12, 13 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 19, 20, 21, 22 You can decide it by solving the clues and putting their letters in to replace the numbers.

- (a) 9, 13, 10—Used for fishing.
(b) 15, 2, 20, 1—A continent.
(c) 14, 7, 11, 21—A bone in the leg.
(d) 16, 4, 18, 8, 5—Call upon.
(e) 6, 17, 12, 22, 19, 3—Building material. *Answer next week*

WHY?

Said the onion: "I wonder why everyone cries Whenever they see me about? They look at me sadly with tear-laden eyes; Their attitude causes me pain and surprise. I wish I could find out why everyone cries. Whenever they see me about."

Unbearable

IN spite of his wife's protests the husband did not approve of the applicant for the maid's position.

"But she's a treasure," replied the wife. "Just think of the reputation for cooking she bears."

"Who wants to eat she-bears, anyway?" retorted the husband.

RIDDLE-MY-NAME

My first is in jockey, not horse,
My second in current, and course;
My third is in brilliant, not bright;
My fourth is in seeing, not sight.
A girl's name here, reminding you
Of summer days when skies are blue. *Answer next week*

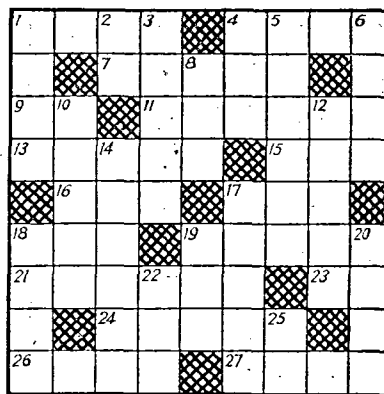
Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 A boy attendant. 4 Shriill sound made by young birds. 7 Fertile spot in the desert. 9 Able-bodied seaman.* 11 Kind. 13 Australia's "Teddy Bear." 15 To devour. 16 To be under obligation to pay. 17 Supplied with food. 18 Consumed. 19 Made of elm. 21 Price demanded for goods. 23 Compass point.* 24 Eager is an anagram of this Indian grain plant. 26 Just 365 make this year. 27 A snare.

Reading Down. 1 Mountain top. 2 To start. 3 Big bird of prey. 4 This is said to be neat when new. 5 To think highly of. 6 Writer in verse. 8 Ocean. 10 Tent at a fair. 12 Charged with a burden. 14 Tired, as a poet would say it. 17 Swift. 18 Sour. 19 Gift of the hen. 20 Describes the lowest tide. 22 Royal Astronomical Society.* 25 Edvardus Rex.*

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. *Answer next week*

The Children's Newspaper, February 25, 1950



LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Word Puzzle

1, Aesop; 2, pearl; 3, prize; 4, bison; 5, adieu

Parts of the Body

Arm, leg, shin, lips, hair, ear, heel, heart

Riddle-My-Name

Dorothy (anagram of Try hood)

Healthy and Bright

I WANT to be healthy,
I want to be bright;
I'll sleep with my windows
Wide open at night.



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